ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-NINTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Cahaba Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

SILOAM CHURCH, MARION, ALA.,

October 13th, 14th, and 15th, 1866.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA:
FRANKLIN STEAM PRINTING HOUSE—J. J. TOON, PROPRIETOR.
1867.

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MINUTES.

MARION, ALA., SATURDAY, OCT. 13, 1866, }
11 O'CLOCK, A.M. }

THE Delegates having assembled, resolved to defer the Introductory Sermon until to-night. The letters were read and the names of delegates enrolled as follows—viz:

CHURCHES.

Bethel—R. D. Fagg and R. S. Harris.

Concord—J. A. Waters, R. O. Harris.

Fellowship, Perry Co.—J. B. Pool, R. S. Jones, H. Crawford, W. Griffin.

Colored Church, Greensboro—J. B. Pool, S. R. Freeman.

Medline—J. Sanders, J. W. Terry, T. O. Nichols.

Mt. Edon—J. Kinerd, T. Lester, J. McCauley, W. B. Cureton.

Pine Flat—W. M. McCullough, R. Farley.

Macedonia—Wm. Wooten.

Mt. Zion—J. N. C. Brown, J. W. Suttle.

Newbern—C. C. Huckabee, W. T. Hendon, W. F. Perry.

New Hope—B. J. Sims.

Mt. Pleasant, Tuskaloosa Co.—J. A. Hill, R. Y. Woods.

Ocmulgee—I. U. Wilkes, J. R. Shinn.

Mt. Pleasant, Perry Co.—J. S. Ford, Chas. Heard, Wm. Ford.

Siloam—W. H. McIntosh, R. Holman, M. T. Sumner, A. J. Battle, I. B. Vaiden, T. W. Tobey, W. B. Lawson, A. B. Goodhue, J. F. Bailey, J. H. Lea, J. B. Fiquet, W. N. Wyatt, W. T. McAllister, W. M. Pleasant, E. A. Blunt.

Sardis—S. Tubb, S. Caudle.

Union, Perry Co.—C. J. Crews.

African Church, Uniontown—I. B. Vaiden.

Mt. Hebron—B. Holbrook, J. A. Hill.

Selma—J. T. S. Park.

Pisgah—E. W. Garrison.

Ephesus—D. Gentry.

Union, Green Co.—H. T. Stringfellow, W. R. Martin.

Providence—J. F. Howell.

Antioch—J. Frasier.

Hopewell—S. R. Freeman.

Hephzibah—H. O. Haggard.

Shiloh—Letter and funds.

Stone St. Baptist Church, Mobile—Letter and funds.

Organized by the election of Rev. L. L. Fox, Moderator, and A. B. Goodhue, Clerk.

Admitted as members of the Association, Ephesus and Union, (Green county,) churches.

Adopted the order of business of the last session as the order for the present one.

Corresponding letters from the Tuskaloosa and Mulberry Associations read and their delegate received—W. J. Lee.

Appointed R. Holman, chairman of Committee on Education,—the one appointed last session not being present.

Appointed W. H. McIntosh chairman of Committee on the Religious Instruction of the Colored People.

Appointed Committee on Preaching: Pastor and Deacons Siloam Church, W. T. Hendon, J. Kinerd.

Adjourned until 2½, P.M.

2½ o'clock, P.M.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

On Sabbath Schools—A. J. Battle, C. C. Huckabee, T. W. Tobey.

On Education—R. Holman, J. B. Pool, W. B. Lawson.

On Foreign Missions—S. H. Fowlkes, J. Kinerd, S. R. Freeman.

On Domestic Missions—M. T. Sumner, W. N. Wyatt.

On Temperance—I. B. Vaiden, W. T. Hendon, C. J. Crews.

On Letters and Documents—J. T. S. Park, I. U. Wilkes, W. T. McAllister.

On the Religious Instruction of the Colored People—W. H. McIntosh, A. J. Battle, R. Holman.

Report of Committee on Temperance laid on the table until called up.

Invited visiting brethren present to seats and to participate in the deliberations of the body. Accepted by brother Lovelace, of Virginia.

Resolved, To recognize Rev. Dr. Sumner in his official relations to the B. D. M. S. B. C.

Appointed Committee on Finance: J. W. Suttle, E. A. Blunt, J. F. Bailey.

Appointed Corresponding Delegates to the following Asssociations—viz:

Alabama—W. H. McIntosh, J. H. Lea, W. N. Wyatt, L. L. Fox, J. T. S. Park, M. T. Sumner, J. L. M. Curry.

Bigbee—M. T. Sumner, W. H. McIntosh, S. R. Freeman.
Tuskaloosa—J. A. Hill, A. J. Battle.
Pine Barren—R. Holman, P. E. Collins.
Unity—M. T. Sumner, J. T. S. Park.
Shelby—R. D. Faggard, J. T. S. Park.
Bethel—L. L. Fox.
Mulberry—C. J. Crews, J. S. Ford.

Appointed delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention : M. T. Sumner, J. A. Hill, C. J. Crews, J. F. Howell, J. R. Shinn, W. F. Perry, Carter Tubb, J. B. Pool, W. M. McCullough, W. T. McAllister.

Went into Committee of the Whole on the State of Religion in the Churches composing this Association. Remarks were made by brethren Sumner, Ford, Hill, Huckabee, McIntosh, Park, Wilkes, and Bailey.

The Committee of the Whole having risen—

Resolved, To refer the subject which had engaged the attention of the Committee of the Whole to a special committee : W. H. McIntosh, M. T. Sumner, I. U. Wilkes, C. C. Huckabee, and J. F. Bailey.

Adjourned to meet after the Introductory Sermon to-night.

Prayer by Rev. J. A. Hill.

7 o'clock, P.M.

Introductory Sermon by Rev. I. B. Vaiden.

Association called to order.

Report of Committee on the Religious Instruction of the Colored People read, and pending the discussion of it, adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. W. H. McIntosh.

Monday, 9 o'clock, A.M.

Prayer by Rev. J. R. Shinn.

Requested Rev. R. Holman to act as Moderator in the absence of brother Fox.

Minutes read and approved.

Appointed one of the delegates to each of the corresponding Associations to write a letter to said Association : To the Alabama—W. H. McIntosh. To the Bigbee—S. R. Freeman. To the Tuskaloosa—J. A. Hill. To the Pine Barren—R. Holman. To the Unity—M. T. Sumner. To the Shelby—J. T. S. Park. To the Bethel—L. L. Fox. To the Mulberry—J. S. Ford.

Appointed Auditing Committee—W. N. Wyatt, J. Kinerd.

Report of Committee on the Religious Instruction of the Colored People adopted. (Appendix A.)

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools adopted. (Appendix B.)

Appointed W. F. Perry chairman of Committee on Foreign Missions —brother S. H. Fowlkes not being present.

Appointed Committee on Widows' and Orphans' Fund: C. J. Crews, J. Kinerd.

Report of the Committee on the State of Religion in the Churches read, discussed, and laid on the table for the present.

Report of the Committee on Letters and Documents read and recommitted.

Adjourned until 2½, P.M.

2½ o'clock, P.M.

Prayer by Rev. S. R. Freeman.

Report of Committee on Letters and Documents laid on the table.

Report of Committee on Foreign Missions adopted. (Appendix C.)

Report of Committee on Domestic Missions adopted. (App. D.)

Report of Committee on the State of Religion taken from the table and adopted. (Appendix E.)

Raised for the support of an Evangelist, cash and pledges, $550.

Report of Committee on Finance adopted. (Appendix F.)

Appointed W. B. Lawson Treasurer.

Report of Auditing Committee adopted. (Appendix G.)

Report of Treasurer adopted. (Appendix H.)

Report of Committee on Education adopted. (Appendix I.)

Resolved, That when this body adjourns, it will adjourn to meet with the Union Church, Green county.

Appointed W. B. Lawson and W. N. Wyatt a committee to nominate some one to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session.

Report of Committee on Temperance taken from the table and again laid on the table indefinitely.

Appointed Rev. S. R. Freeman to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session.

The Committee on the Widows' and Orphans' Fund made a verbal report.

Suspended the order of business and raised by contributions $70 for that fund.

Adjourned until after preaching to-night.

8½ o'clock, P.M.

Raised by contributions from the congregation in cash and pledges, $—— for the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

Appointed chairmen of Standing Committees as follows—viz:

On Education—A. J. Battle.

On Foreign Missions—J. A. Hill.

On Domestic Missions—J. T. S. Park.

On Temperance—J. F. Bailey.

On Sunday Schools—W. F. Perry.

On the Religious Instruction of the Colored People—S. R. Freeman.

Appropriated $80 for printing and distributing minutes, and the remainder of the Associational fund to the Clerk for his services.

Adjourned to meet with the Union Church, Green county, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, 1867.

L. L. FOX, *Moderator.*

A. B. GOODHUE, *Clerk.*

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

(APPENDIX A.)

ON THE RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION OF THE COLORED PEOPLE.

The Committee on the Religious Instruction of the Colored People offer as their report the following resolutions adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention at its late session in Russellville, Kentucky:

Resolved, That in our changed relations to the colored people, we recognize, as heretofore, our solemn obligations to give religious instruction to them, by all those means which God has ordained for the salvation of men.

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to our brethren to increase the work of Sabbath school instruction among them, and that when practicable, a Sunday school for them be established in every church.

Resolved, That we suggest to the pastors of our churches the duty of giving theological and other instruction to such colored brethren as are now engaged in preaching, and to such as, in the judgment of the churches, may be called to this work.

Resolved, That we recommend to our people to encourage the negroes to establish day schools for the instruction of their children, and also to encourage our young men and young women to engage in the work of teaching them.

Resolved, That while we are not opposed to any right-minded man aiding in this important work, it is our decided conviction, from our knowledge of the character of these people, and of the feelings of our citizens, that this work must be done mainly by ourselves.

W. H. MCINTOSH, Chairman.

(APPENDIX B.)

OF SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The experience of a century has demonstrated the utility and blessed efficacy of the Sabbath school. But it is more than a utility—more than a blessing: it may be called a necessity. Many of our churches, having experienced the benefits of this heaven-sanctioned institution, could ill afford to resign the important instrumentality. By mutual reflex influence, the Sunday school has strengthened the church, and the church, stimulated to greater activity, has in turn fostered this nursery of its piety and usefulness.

The Association deplores the declension of spirituality in our churches, and is anxiously seeking a remedy for the alarming disorder. Your Committee would earnestly recommend the establishment of Sunday schools in all the churches composing this body, as a most valuable means of arresting this decline, and of restoring the piety and zeal of our beloved Zion. In the absence of regular pulpit supply, let the members of each church assemble every Sabbath morning, at their places of worship, with their children and their neighbors' children, and let the hours of the holy day from morning to noon be spent in the exercises of the Sabbath school and prayer meeting. Let every delegate to this body return home resolved to employ all his influence and energy for the establishment of this institution in every church within reach now deprived of its benefits, and for increasing the efficiency of those already in operation. Persevere in this good work, brethren, and our next session will find us rejoicing "in the fullness of the blessing," rather than sitting under the juniper tree in the very ashes of despondency.

We would urge the adoption of every agency for increasing the interest and attractiveness of the school that a prudent wisdom might devise. Teaching the children to sing, the judicious distribution of rewards, and, above all, the lively interest of superintendents, teachers and parents in the conversion of their children, will secure most valuable results. We would commend the schools of the Siloam and Selma churches as examples of well-conducted and flourishing institutions.

We would also recommend that, in the event of the employment of an evangelist by the Association, it be made a part of his duty to inaugurate and encourage Sabbath schools in all the churches.

A. J. BATTLE, Chairman.

(APPENDIX C.)

ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Foreign Missions respectfully report:

The continuance of the late war for four years, and the prostration of all material interests in the South, consequent on that struggle, necessarily withdrew most of the support previously extended to this great work. It is, however, a matter of gratitude and joy that, through the blessings of Divine Providence and the zeal and energy of our mis-

sionaries in the field, no mission has been discontinued during the trying period through which we have passed. This of itself is sufficient to incite us to renewed exertions in the future. The missionary work is essentially aggressive in its character. To stand still is to give up the struggle. To do nothing now is to lose all or nearly all that has been gained by many years of toil and suffering. It is our duty, not only to extend prompt support to the mission already established, but if possible to push our exertions into other fields of labor.

The great commission is no less binding upon Christians now than when first uttered. The Savior spoke to *us* no less than to his wondering disciples on the Mount of Olives, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature;" and it is only when acting in obedience to this great command that we have a right to appropriate the promise, "Lo! I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

W. F. Perry, Chairman.

(APPENDIX D.)

ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

The present condition of our country is deplorable, indeed. We refer not to its physical and political affairs. These are bad enough, but these will soon be remedied, when the natural agencies at man's disposal shall be applied. Trade and commerce will take care of all these, and ere long the waste places in the commercial world will be under the most extensive and prosperous cultivation. Indeed, our towns and cities, laid waste by the results of the late war, are now presenting a new and improved aspect hardly to be realized in so short a period. There is a native principle in our people that will secure success in all our secular pursuits and give assurance of unexampled prosperity in the history of our nation.

But it is the *religious* condition of our people we would call to your attention. We have just come forth from a long and desperate war, suffering from all its deplorable moral and religious consequences. More than ever, who can fail to see the increase of vice and immorality, infidelity and superstition? How can this tide be rolled back and its onward course staid in its march of destruction? We know of no other remedy but the Gospel of Christ. It was Christ that came to seek and to save those that were lost. It is the blood of Christ that cleanseth from all sin. Christ alone is the hope of our sin-stricken earth. He is the Savior of the world! To the Gospel, then, must we look as the remedial system for the world's recovery from the consequences of the fall. It is this that has abolished idolatry, changed the systems of nations, and elevated peoples from the depth of barbarism and clothed them in the garments of an enlightened Christianity. We might, then, appeal to the *interests* of mankind, simply to secure their coöperation and support of this great system of reform—the promulgation of the blessed word of God—the preaching of the Gospel as the means of grace, ordained of God as the instrument of life.

To this end the Board of Domestic Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention has been organized, and now under successful operation for twenty-one years. During this time it has expended thousands in the establishment of churches, and in the maintenance of the living ministry of Christ throughout our vast Southern country. It has done much to extend the influence of humble piety, and advance the cause of sound evangelical truth. It is at present able to extend its aid and support to a large number of churches, in maintaining the ministry in their midst. It is also supplying a number of earnest, intelligent, and valuable evangelists to destitute districts of our land, whose efforts have been greatly blessed in the reörganization of enfeebled churches, and the gathering together of scattered elements of our injured Zion.

This Board of the S. B. C. is located in Marion, Ala., and its means of usefulness should be largely increased through the liberal contributions of the churches. We would recommend to the pastors generally that contributions be taken up annually in their respective congregations for the objects of this Board, and that they be forwarded to the Board directly, or to the Association at the time of its annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted. M. T. SUMNER, Chairman.

(APPENDIX E.)

ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee are deeply impressed with the lamentably low state of religion within the limits of this Association, and in view of it, recommend to the churches to humble themselves, under the mighty hand of God, and to betake themselves to the cross of the Redeemer, that their strength may be renewed, and that they may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

We would kindly urge upon them the importance of sustaining their pastors to the utmost of their ability.

We further recommend to the Association the employment of an evangelist to coöperate with pastors, to preach to the destitute, establish and encourage Sabbath schools, and in every way to feed the flock of God.

We submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1*st*, That this Association will employ, through the Board of Domestic Missions, an evangelist to labor within the limits of this body.

Resolved, 2*d*, That pastors be urged to voluntary efforts to meet the destitution as far as their obligations to their churches will admit.

W. H. MCINTOSH, Chairman.

(APPENDIX F.)

ON FINANCE.

Amount received for Associational purposes and for minutes, $108 80

J. W. SUTTLE, Chairman.

(APPENDIX G.)

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

We have examined the reports of the Treasurer and Auditing Committee and find them correct.

W. N. WYATT, Chairman.

(APPENDIX H.)

TREASURER'S REPORT.

L. C. TUTT, *Treasurer, in Account with Cahaba Association.*

1865. To amount received from Finance Committee,.....$88 50

1866. *Cr.*

March 1. By cash paid A. B. Goodhue.....$88 50

L. C. TUTT, Treasurer.

(APPENDIX I.)

ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee to whom was referred the subject of Education, submit the following:

We have two institutions of learning within the limits of this Association, for which we should be profoundly grateful, and for the sustaining of which we should labor with untiring industry. In the promotion of sound learning, the elevation of the standard of education, and in giving efficiency to our denominational enterprises, they have been eminently useful throughout the State and even beyond. They are objects which have become much endeared to the Baptist family in a large portion of the South. Any spirit of antagonism—any effort to impair their usefulness or cripple their energies, is watched with a jealous eye, and regarded with disfavor by its numerous friends and patrons.

These institutions opened on the 1st of the present month, with able and experienced Faculties. The Judson has a patronage equal to the expectaions of the most sanguine of those acquainted with all the surroundings. It has 130 pupils—a number nearly equal to that of former sessions at the close of the third week. It has all the facilites for furnishing a finished female education.

The opening of the Howard has not equaled the expectations and outlay of its friends and the wants of the day. The reverses of the times and the unprecedented short crops have contributed chiefly to this disappointment. While these embarrassments are real and great, your committee are deeply impressed with the fact that the importance of the correct mental and moral training of our youth and children is not sufficiently appreciated. No toil is too arduous—no sacrifice too great to secure the proper culture of the rising generation. The war has left our educational interests in a sad state. Robt. Hall remarked that a twelve months' war rolled back a nation's mental and moral improve-

ments a quarter of a century. When our nation will recover from the demoralizing effects of a four years' war, none can tell. It is certain we have no time to lose. Our appreciation of the future of our country; of the position and destiny of our children will measure our interest in, and sacrifices for, the right education of our children.

Respectfully submitted. R. HOLMAN, Chairman.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	PASTORS.	Rec'd by Baptism.	Rec'd by Letter.	Dis. by Letter.	Excommunicated.	Restored.	Deceased.	Total in Fellowship	Association Fund.	Minute Fund.	Total.
Siloam	Perry	W. H. McIntosh.	32	22	24	2	..	3	843	10 00	....	10 00
Selma	Dallas		2	11	5	..	..	..	117	....	....	....
Shiloh	Perry	J. M. Heard	6	3	4	..	..	3	92	....	2 00	2 00
Union	Greene	J. B. Pool	24	20	..	..	..	..	63	....	....	....
Newbern	Greene	S. R. Freeman.	..	4	8	..	..	..	186	5 00	5 00	10 00
Hephzibah	Perry		..	1	.	4	..	3	102	1 00	3 00	4 00
Hopewell	Perry	S. R. Freeman.	..	..	..	..	..	..	93	10 00	....	10 00
Colored, Greensboro	Greene	J. B. Pool.	105	..	3	..	1	..	880	....	....	....
Macedonia	Greene	J. P. Thompson.	..	..	..	..	..	..	32	....	1 00	1 00
Mt. Edon	Perry		2	..	..	..	..	1	92	1 00	3 00	4 00
Union	Perry		..	..	..	..	..	..	50	50	1 00	1 50
Mt. Pleasant	Tuskaloosa	J. A. Hill.	12	..	4	18	...	1	86	1 00	2 00	2 00
Pisgah	Perry	J. W. Melton.	..	2	9	5	..	2	204	2 00	3 00	5 00
Newhope	Perry	F. M. Hopson.	..	1	..	..	...	1	48	....	2 00	2 00
Ocmulgee	Perry	I. U. Wilkes.	..	1	5	1	..	1	237	1 00	3 00	4 00
Antioch	Perry	J. P. Thompson.	1	2	2	1	..	..	421	....	1 50	1 50
Providence	Perry		..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	....
Ephesus	Perry	H. O. Haggard.	7	2	1	..	..	..	33	....	....	....
Medline	Perry	J. M. Heard.	..	..	3	7	..	..	80	....	....	....
Concord	Perry	J. S. Ford.	..	4	5	..	..	..	130	....	....	....
Fellowship	Perry	J. B. Pool.	..	2	1	..	..	..	153	1 00	2 75	3 75
Bethel	Bibb	R. Keith.	9	3	1	1	1	..	54	1 00	1 50	2 50
Mt. Pleasant	Perry	J. S. Ford.	..	..	1	..	1	.	60	1 00	2 00	3 00
Mt. Zion	Bibb		..	..	4	..	..	2	49	....	4 00	4 00
Sardis	Perry	C. Tubb	1	4	9	1	..	..	97	1 00	2 00	3 00
Mt. Hebron	Greene	J. A. Hill.	...	..	3	..	..	..	17	....	3 00	3 00
African, Uniontown	Perry	L. L. Fox.	42	1	1	25	6	8	648	....	2 50	2 50
Pine Flat	Perry	I. U. Wilkes.	..	6	4	..	..	1	45	1 50	2 00	3 50
Stone St., Mobile	Mobile	B. Burke.	40	60	..	..	..	60	750	....	10 00	10 00
African, Mobile	Mobile		..	..	..	..	..	..	.	....	....	....
Bethsaida	Greene		..	..	..	..	..	..	*43	....	....	....
Cahaba	Dallas		..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	....
Friendship	Perry		..	..	..	..	..	..	*165	....	....	....
Liberty	Dallas		..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	....
Mt. Gilead	Bibb		..	..	..	..	..	..	*66	....	....	....
Pilgrim's Rest	Perry		..	..	..	..	..	..	*108	....	....	....
Pleasant Hill	Tuskaloosa		..	..	..	..	..	..	*24	....	....	....
St. Louis St. Colored	Mobile		..	..	..	..	..	..	....	....	....	....
Uniontown	Perry		..	..	..	..	..	..	*70	....	....	....

* From statistics of last year.

THE CHRISTIAN INDEX AND SOUTH-WESTERN BAPTIST.

A First-class Religious and Family Newspaper,

Of the largest size, printed in the best style, and filled with choice Contributions from the ablest Writers in the country.

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Space admits of using only a few expressions of approval and appreciation by those who are competent to judge of the merits of the paper.

FROM A DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN IN TENNESSEE: "The Index & Baptist is the ablest paper published in the United States; if anybody doubts this declaration let him take the paper and read half a dozen numbers, and he will coincide in opinion with me."

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FROM TROUP COUNTY, GA.: "There is one thing I cannot afford—I cannot afford to do without the Index."

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Georgia Baptist Convention, at its session in Macon, April 23, 1866:

"RESOLVED, That the Christian Index & South-Western Baptist, on account of its typographical excellence, its literary merit, its orthodox sentiments and its christian spirit, deserves our hearty commendation and our active efforts for the increase of its circulation."